

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/926,487

Applicant(s)

YAMAGIWA, TOSHIO

Examiner

Justin R Fischer

Art Unit

1733

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 28 October 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3 and 4 (renumbered 1 and 2).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 and 2 are cancelled per the After Final Amendment submitted on October 28, 2004.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 3 and 4 (renumbered 1 and 2) are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 3 and 4, sealant-containing tires are extremely well known in the tire industry. In particular, there are a variety of tire designs incorporating such sealant chambers. For example, it is known to place a sealant chamber between the tire body and an innermost liner (such that sealant is adjacent tread region) or inward of a liner that is adjacent the tire body (within tire cavity). Additionally, it is known to form a sealant chamber between a first liner that is adjacent the tire body and a second liner that is inward of said sealant chamber- such a design is illustrated by Chemizard. However, the prior art references of record failed to suggest, teach, or disclose the specific sealant chamber arrangements required by claims 3 and 4. More specifically, claim 3 requires a first outer liner that is directly fastened to the inner surface of a tire sidewall and a first inner liner that is directly fastened to the outer liner, wherein a sealant chamber is defined between the outer liner and the tread (any arrangement having sealant between tread and inner liner does not contain an outer liner directly fastened to the sidewall of the tire body). As to claim 4, this claim requires a first outer liner, a second outer liner, and a first inner liner, wherein said first outer liner is fastened

to the inner surface of the tread, said second outer liner is fastened to the inner surface of the sidewalls, and said first inner liner is fastened to the inner surface of second outer liner (sealant chamber defined between inner liner and first outer liner). While sealant-containing tires having multiple liners are known, the arrangement of claim 4 is not suggested, disclosed, or taught by the prior art references of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Justin R Fischer** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1215**. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-4:00).

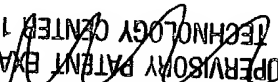
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Blaine Copenheaver can be reached on (571) 272-1156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Justin Fischer

November 9, 2004


BLAINE COPENHEAVER
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700


BLAINE COPENHEAVER
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700